

GLOSSARY

A

academic award. Recognition given to an individual cadet for scholastic achievement or excellence.

align. To arrange in a line. (**alignment.** The arrangement of several elements on the same line.)

amalgamation. A combination or consolidation, as of several corporations.

amphibious. Able to operate both on land and in water: *amphibious tanks*. Relating to or organized for a military landing by means of combined naval and land forces.

anthem. A song of gladness, praise, devotion, or patriotism.

athletic award. Recognition given to an individual for athletic participation or excellence.

avionics. [Short for *avi(ation) (electr)onics*.] The science and technology of electronics applied to aeronautics (aircraft navigation) and astronautics (space flight).

aweigh. Hanging clear of the bottom.

B

barrage balloon. [Also called a “Bulging Bertha.”] An inflatable, shiny, silver-painted balloon, made of rubber-coated fabric and filled with hydrogen gas, that is attached to the deck of a merchant ship and floated above it (at 500 feet when traveling in dangerous waters and 2,000 feet when under attack); it is used in preventing low-level attacks by enemy aircraft in that the 15 gauge flying

wire can clip the wings off the attacking planes.

battalion. A military unit made up of two or more companies or batteries and a headquarters that is commanded by a lieutenant colonel, is the smallest unit to have a staff, and is administratively self-sufficient.

battle dress uniform. A camouflage uniform worn by members of the U.S. Army, Army National Guard, Army Reserve, and Army ROTC.

beacon. Anything that warns or guides along a coast, such as a lighthouse or other signaling/ guiding device.

bisect (-ing). To cut or divide into two equal parts.

bombardment. To attack with bombs, explosive shells, or missiles; to attack persistently.

buoy. A float moored in water as a warning of danger under the surface or as a marker for a channel.

C

cadet. A high school student enrolled in the leadership and citizenship activities through Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps.

cannon salute. The firing of a salute by a battery of guns or cannons to honor a person of military, national, or civic importance or to honor a significant national event.

challenge. (1) To arouse the interest of one’s actions or efforts; to stimulate; the quality of requiring full use of one’s abilities, energy, and resources; (2) To demand identification from someone before they are allowed to enter or pass.

chevron. Insignia consisting of stripes meeting at an angle to indicate (enlisted) grade or rank.

Citizen-soldiers. A member of the National Guard or Reserve Corps.

class A uniform. A service uniform that consists of an Army green coat, trousers or slacks; a long or short sleeve shirt; a black four-in-hand tie or black neck tab; and other authorized accessories.

class B uniform. A service uniform that is the same as the Class A uniform except the service coat is not worn. The black tie and black neck tab are required when wearing the long sleeve shirt; both tie and tab are optional with the short sleeve shirt.

Color. The U.S. national flag. (**Colors.** The U.S. national flag and any organizational or positional flags.)

combatant. Engaged in combat.

commerce. The exchange or buying and selling of goods on a large scale (as between nations) involving transportation from place to place.

company. A subdivision of a military regiment or battalion that constitutes the lowest administrative unit. It is usually under the command of a captain and is made up of at least two platoons.

conflict resolution. The solutions utilized by a society to settle disputes in a cohesive manner.

constituted authority. People or groups of people who have an appointed power or authority by virtue of their position to make decisions and rules.

counterintelligence. Actions taken by intelligence personnel or units to prevent an enemy from gathering information about friendly forces, to deceive the enemy, to prevent sabotage, or to gather political and military information.

courtesy (plur. **-ies**). An act of politeness or gracious manners; the use of polite gestures or remarks.

cultural diversity. The presence of multiple and different cultural groups and their behaviors within an organization or institution.

custom. A long-established practice followed as a matter of course among people, oftentimes considered an unwritten law or repeated practice.

cutter. A small, lightly armed motorboat used by the U.S. Coast Guard.

D

decoration. An indication of honor, such as a badge, medal, or ribbon.

Department of Defense (DoD). A department of the executive branch of the federal government created by amendments to the *National Security Act of 1949*. It includes the departments of the Army, Navy, and Air Force, the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and other staff officers responsible for directing the manpower and resources in defense of the nation.

doctrine. (1) A principle (or creed of principles) relating to a specific belief, subject, theory, or branch of knowledge; (2) The fundamental policy or standard for a principle or set of principles on a specific subject, theory, or branch of knowledge; (3) Something that is taught.

dress. (1) To arrange or align in a straight, lateral line at proper intervals; (2) To attire with a certain degree of uniformity; (3) An appearance appropriate or peculiar to a particular time.

E

enlisted. Relating to or constituting the part of the military force below officers.

ensign. (1) In the U.S. Navy, Coast Guard, or Merchant Marine, the lowest ranking commissioned officer; (2) A flag that is displayed or flown from an aircraft, ship, or boat as the symbol of nationality.

esprit de corps. The common spirit or feeling of pride found in the members of a group and inspiring enthusiasm, devotion, and strong regard for the honor of the group.

ethos. Fundamental values of a group; the character or attitude peculiar to a specific culture or group that distinguishes it from others.

expeditionary. A battalion-sized intervention force (normally composed of organic infantry, armor, and artillery) that contains a composite aircraft squadron and its own service support element; it may also include special operational elements such as amphibious and aviation units.

F

fad. A popular fashion followed for a short time.

ferrule. (1) A decorative metal cap attached to the end of a shoulder cord to prevent fraying; (2) A metal ring or cap attached to the end of a staff or handle to give strength or to protect it against splitting.

fitted. To adapt to the proper size or shape.

formal inspection. An official examination of JROTC units that takes place on a prescribed schedule.

frigate. A high-speed, medium-sized sailing war vessel of the 17th, 18th, and 19th centuries. Today, a U.S. warship of approximately 5,000 to 7,000 tons, intermediate between a cruiser and destroyer, used primarily for escort duty.

G

garrison cap. Headgear that may be worn with the Class A or B uniforms. For JROTC, the braid (piping used for identification purposes) will have a cord edge of the same material as the cap (or Army green shade 344). (NOTE: **garrison** refers to a military post or to station soldiers in a town or post.)

garrison flag. Type of flag, 20 by 38 feet, flown on holidays and important occasions.

gigline. Line formed by the seam of the shirt aligned with the zipper flap and the edge of the belt buckle on certain JROTC uniforms.

gross tonnage. (1) The total space or capacity within the hull and enclosed deck of a merchant ship measured in units of 100 cubic feet; (2) The total shipping (carrying capacity) of a country or port figured in tons.

H

half-staff. The position of the flag about half-way down from the top of the pole or staff, used to honor and pay respect to military and nationally important deceased persons; or as a distress signal.

halyard. A rope or tackle used for hoisting or lowering.

hemmed. To fold back and stitch down the edge of a garment.

I

individual award. Recognition given to an individual for outstanding academic, athletic, or military achievement, or for excellence in competition, contribution to unit goals or outstanding service.

inextricably. Incapable of being separated.

insignia. (1) An emblem, badge, medal or other distinguishing mark of office, honor, or position; (2) Denotes grade and branch; may also indicate capacity and duty assignment in the U.S. Army.

J

JROTC (Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps). A program that teaches high school students the values of good citizenship while giving them an introduction to the U.S. Army.

L

leadership. The ability to influence, lead, or guide others so as to accomplish a mission in the manner desired.

Letter of Marque. A document issued by a nation allowing a private citizen to: (1) equip a ship with arms in order to attack enemy ships, or (2) seize citizens or goods of another nation.

liberty ship. A type of large American cargo ship produced in large numbers during World War II.

M

mess. (1) A group of persons, usually in the military, who regularly eat meals together; (2) The place where such meals are served.

military award. Recognition given to an individual for participation in JROTC-sponsored activities or for leadership excellence.

military training. A system of progressive education that occurs both in the classroom (or a field location) and on the job to prepare students or military personnel for future jobs or schooling.

militia. A citizen army — as distinct from a regular army or a body of full-time, professional soldiers — that is usually controlled by the individual states and subject to call during an emergency by the government of a country.

miscellaneous award. Recognition given to an individual for participation in school or community activities or in activities that enhance the JROTC program.

mission. A specific job given to a person or group of persons to accomplish.

mobilize (-ation). To assemble, prepare, or put into operation (personnel, units, equipment, etc.) for war or a similar emergency.

motivate. Provide a need or a purpose which causes a person to want to do something.

N

nap. A soft, fuzzy finish or cloth formed by short fibers raised on the surface.

National Defense Act. Enacted in 1916, this act officially created the Reserve Officers'

Training Corps (ROTC) of which Junior ROTC is a part.

National march. “The Stars and Stripes Forever” as recognized in the United States Code of Federal Regulations.

neck tab. A narrow length of black material worn about the neck under the collar of the female Army green long sleeve shirt, or short sleeve blouse.

nonaccession. The policy or practice of not accepting personnel directly from traditional officer or enlisted entrance sources.

nonsubdued Bright and shining, not dull or flat (such as polished brass pin-on insignia).

O

operational. Connected with the execution of military operations.

operational commands. Commands performing the primary mission of the service as distinguished from support commands.

opportunities. A favorable or advantageous circumstance or combination of circumstances.

P

parity. The quality or state of being equal.

payload. (1) The total amount of armament and munitions carried on an aircraft; (2) The warhead of a missile.

pennant. A long, narrow flag tapering to a point or a swallowtail at the end.

pilotage. The technique or act of coastal navigation by reference to landmarks, buoys, soundings, and the like.

platoon. A subdivision of a company-size military unit normally consisting of two or more squads or sections; the leader is usually a first lieutenant.

position of honor. A military courtesy of usually keeping seniors to your right while walking or sitting.

post flag. Type of flag used for everyday occasions; 10' x 19'.

precedence. The act or right of preceding or placing in order according to rank or importance; priority.

pre-inspection. An informal examination before an official or formal inspection.

privateer. A ship privately owned and manned but authorized by a government during wartime to attack and capture enemy vessels; the commander or one of the crew of such a ship.

proliferate (-ion). To increase at a rapid rate.

Q

R

reporting. Presenting oneself to a senior.

reserve corps. Trained military members available to augment active duty forces in times when activated.

ruffles and flourishes. A drum and bugle salute, usually to honor military or civil officials.

S

salute. A sign or form of exchange used to greet or to show respect and recognition.

scuttle (-ing). To sink a ship by opening a hatch (or hatches) in the deck, side, wall, or roof, or to cut a hole (or holes) in a ship's hull.

sea power. A nation's naval strength.

secretary of defense. The head of the Department of Defense, one of the president's appointed Cabinet members.

self-propel (-led). To have the ability within itself to move.

shoulder marks. A pair of broad pieces of stiffened cloth worn on the shoulders of the Class A or B uniforms to display the insignia of grade. (*Blank* shoulder marks do not display an insignia of grade so that pin-on insignia may be used instead.)

sized. The physical dimensions, proportions, magnitude, or extent of an object. Any of a series of graduated categories of dimension whereby manufactured articles, such as shoes and clothing, are classified.

specialist. (1) A person who devotes himself to a particular occupation or field of study; (2) The enlisted rank in the Army corresponding to a corporal.

specified. To state explicitly or in detail.

squad. The smallest unit in the Army organization composed of a varying number of personnel, depending on the type of element, and led by a noncommissioned officer.

staff. (1) Officers and noncommissioned officers who assist a commander in carrying out the unit's mission; (2) Another word for flagpole used to carry unit guidons or colors.

standard. A term now interchangeable with "colors," although formerly it was used for

flags of mounted, motorized, and mechanized organizations.

"Star-Spangled Banner, The." The national anthem of the United States, written by Francis Scott Key.

stealth. An aircraft coated with radar-absorbent material making it almost invisible to radar.

strategic. Of or relating to the large scale or global planning and conduct of military strategy, movements, and/or operations essential to the effective conduct of war.

storm flag. Type of flag flown in bad weather; five by nine and one-half feet.

subordinate. A person lower in rank or grade.

subsidy (-ies). Monetary assistance granted by a government to a person or a private commercial enterprise; financial assistance given by one person or government to another.

succession. The order of persons next in line for an office or rank that is held by another.

surfboat. A strong seaworthy boat that can be launched or landed in a heavy surf.

symbols. Something that represents something else by association, resemblance, or convention, especially a material object used to represent something invisible

T

tactile. Something perceptible by touch; of, pertaining to, or proceeding from the sense of touch.

tarnishes. To dull the luster of; discolor.

team. A group of persons approximating one-half of a squad and normally led by a junior noncommissioned officer.

tender. A vessel employed to attend to other ships, such as a smaller vessel used for communication or ferrying supplies between shore and/or larger ships; a warship that provides logistics support.

theater. A large geographic area (including its land, sea, and air) in which active military operations are coordinated and conducted.

tradition. The passing down of elements of a culture (such as knowledge, beliefs, or customs) from one generation to another.

U

uncasing. Removing the case from Colors that are attached to a staff.

unconventional. (1) Not bound by or in accordance with international agreements dealing with a specific subject, such as the rules or laws of warfare; (2) The use of nuclear, biological, or chemical weapons or energy.

uncover. To remove a hat or other headgear; to be bareheaded or without a cover.

under arms. To carry or be furnished with, or to have attached to the person, a weapon or the equipment pertaining directly to a weapon, such as a pistol belt or pistol holster.

Union. (1) The emblem on a flag symbolizing unity, such as the blue rectangle and stars on the United States flag; (2) Those states that remained loyal to the government of the United States during the Civil War; (3) Of or pertaining to the North (or those who supported the federal government) during the Civil War (such as “Union” soldiers).

unit award. Recognition given to a JROTC program for being an honor unit or an honor unit with distinction.

unique. Being the only one of its kind.